

**ABSTRACT****MEMORY MANAGEMENT**

5        There is described a method of accurately scanning  
the C stack. One technique for solving these problems is  
to indirectly reference objects using handles however the  
some JVMs have removed handles to gain a performance  
improvement. The embodiment describes a solution in which  
10      32 bit quantities are known to be object references by  
means of some side information. This avoids the problem  
of integer values masquerading as references causing  
objects to be needlessly retained. It also allows  
employment of a compacting collector which is allowed to  
move objects even if they are referenced from the stacks.  
Currently the compactor is prevented from moving such  
objects leading to reduced compaction efficiency.

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